WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An online file editing method, comprising:

creating a session that allows at least two users with simultaneous to access a file, where each user has access to a replica of the file;

5   receiving from a user an edit instruction indicating a file edit;

editing a replica of the file according to the edit instruction; and

automatically cascading the file edit to each replica of the file.

2.   An online file editing method, comprising:

10   providing at least two users with simultaneous access to a file such that each user has access to a replica of the file;

providing one of the at least two users with a capability to edit a local replica of the file; and

automatically cascading the edit to all of the replicas of the file.

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3.   The method of claim 2, comprising transferring the capability to edit a local replica of the file to an other of the at least two users.

4.   An online file editing method, comprising:

20   uploading the file from a first client to a server;

providing to the first client and a second client simultaneous access to a replica of the file, a first replica and a second replica, respectively;

receiving from one of the first client and the second client an edit command to edit one of the first replica and the second replica;

editing the one of the first replica and the second replica of the file according to the edit command; and

5   automatically editing an other of the first replica and the second replica of the file according to the editing of the one of the first replica and the second replica of the file such that the editing is performed at a same location of the other of the first replica and the second replica of the file as it was performed in the one of the first replica and the second replica of the file.

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5.   The method of claim 4, comprising providing to one of the first and second client authority to edit the file.

6.   The method of claim 4, comprising providing to one of the first and second clients

15 authority to save the file.

7.   A system to edit a file over a network, comprising:

a first client, which includes a first file and an editor that allows a user of the first client to access a replica of a second file;

20   a second client that includes the second file and an editor that allows the second client to access a replica of the first file; and

a server that provides the first client and the second client with simultaneous access to the replicas of the first and second files.

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8.   The system of claim 7, wherein the editor allows one of the initiating client and the remote client to edit the file at a given time.

5   9.   The system of claim 7, wherein the editor allows both the initiating client and the remote client to edit the file.

10.   The system of claim 7, wherein the editor automatically cascades an edit made to the first replica of the file to the second replica of the file.

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